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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/710,300	07/01/2004	Bao-Kim Liu	11025-US-PA	4299

31561 7590 05/24/2006

JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE
7 FLOOR-1, NO. 100
ROOSEVELT ROAD, SECTION 2
TAIPEI, 100
TAIWAN

EXAMINER	
IWASHKO, LEV	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2186	

DATE MAILED: 05/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/710,300	LIU, BAO-KIM	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lev I. Iwashko	2186	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *01 July 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-7* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-7* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *01 July 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *4/12/2006*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following are quotations of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-7 are rejected under U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nagashima et al. (US PGPub 2004/0145973 A1).

Claim 1. An apparatus for storing time-relevant data, comprising:

a controller; and a nonvolatile memory, the controller being coupled to the non-volatile memory, wherein the nonvolatile memory comprises at least two memory blocks, which are written by said controller, said two memory blocks corresponding to different addresses for storing data referring to a time unit. *(By definition, flash memory is written in blocks with different addresses, so the prior art reads on the proposed invention.)*

(Section 0019, lines 8-15 – State the following: "storage means for storing data indicating a time-setting status of the time measurement means, display control means for displaying, on a display, the time-setting status according to the data stored in the storage means, and process control means for controlling execution of particular data processing, in accordance with the time-setting status displayed by the display control means") (Figure 15, Components 1501 and 1504 – Show how the controller is coupled to the memory.) (Section 0204, lines 1-8 – State the following: "In the present embodiment, the controller 1501 detects and manages the status information associated with time information on the basis of time data set by a user via the operation control unit 1503, time data stored in the memory 1504, and the time data supplied from the external time information generator (such as the time information server 1402 shown in FIG. 14) via the external communication unit 1505") (Section 0298, lines 6-10 – State the following: "The present invention can be applied to a system in which information including such programs is supplied to an output device from a storage medium such as a CD-ROM, flash memory, floppy disk (FD), or from an external storage medium via a network")

Claim 2. The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the time unit is a minute. *(Section 0066, lines 1-5 – State the following: "In the present embodiment, time information includes a plurality of time information*

elements such as year data indicating a year in AD, date data indicating a month and a day, and time data in units of hours, minutes, and seconds")

Claim 3. The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the time unit is a second. *(Section 0066, lines 1-5 – State the following: "In the present embodiment, time information includes a plurality of time information elements such as year data indicating a year in AD, date data indicating a month and a day, and time data in units of hours, minutes, and seconds")*

Claim 4. The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the non-volatile memory apparatus is an electrically erasable and programmable read only memory (EEPROM). *(Section 0301, lines 1-5 – State the following: "Specific examples of storage media that can be preferably employed in the present invention to supply the program code include a floppy disk, hard disk, optical disk, magneto-optical disk, CD-ROM, CD-R, magnetic tape, nonvolatile memory card, ROM, and EEPROM")*

Claim 5. A method for writing time-relevant data to a non-volatile memory of an electronic apparatus, comprising: providing at least two different addresses of memory blocks of said nonvolatile memory for storing said data referring to the same time unit; storing a first time-relevant data to the first memory block referring to a time unit; and storing a second time-relevant data to the second memory block referring to said time unit. *(By definition, flash memory is written in blocks with different addresses, so the prior art reads on the proposed invention.) (Section 0019, lines 8-15 –*

State the following: "storage means for storing data indicating a time-setting status of the time measurement means, display control means for displaying, on a display, the time-setting status according to the data stored in the storage means, and process control means for controlling execution of particular data processing, in accordance with the time-setting status displayed by the display control means") (Figure 15, Components 1501 and 1504 – Show how the controller is coupled to the memory.) (Section 0204, lines 1-8 – State the following: "In the present embodiment, the controller 1501 detects and manages the status information associated with time information on the basis of time data set by a user via the operation control unit 1503, time data stored in the memory 1504, and the time data supplied from the external time information generator (such as the time information server 1402 shown in FIG. 14) via the external communication unit 1505") (Section 0298, lines 6-10 – State the following: "The present invention can be applied to a system in which information including such programs is supplied to an output device from a storage medium such as a CD-ROM, flash memory, floppy disk (FD), or from an external storage medium via a network")

Claim 6. The method as recited in claim 5, wherein the time unit is a minute. *(Section 0066, lines 1-5 – State the following: "In the present embodiment, time information includes a plurality of time information*

elements such as year data indicating a year in AD, date data indicating a month and a day, and time data in units of hours, minutes, and seconds")

Claim 7. The method as recited in claim 5, wherein the time unit is a second. *(Section 0066, lines 1-5 – State the following: "In the present embodiment, time information includes a plurality of time information elements such as year data indicating a year in AD, date data indicating a month and a day, and time data in units of hours, minutes, and seconds")*

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lev I. Iwashko whose telephone number is (571)272-1658. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, from 8-6PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matt Kim can be reached on (571)272-4182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lev Iwashko

MATTHEW KIM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER